

109TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5624

To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish an Office of Men's Health.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 15, 2006

Mr. FOSSELLA (for himself, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. GILCHREST, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. HOLT, Mr. ISSA, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. McNULTY, Mrs. MUSGRAVE, Mr. OWENS, Mr. PASTOR, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. WYNN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish an Office of Men's Health.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Men’s Health Act of
5 2006”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds as follows:

1 (1) A silent health crisis is affecting the health
2 and well-being of America's men.

3 (2) While this health crisis is of particular con-
4 cern to men, it is also a concern for women regard-
5 ing their fathers, husbands, sons, and brothers.

6 (3) Men's health is a concern for employers who
7 pay the costs of medical care, and lose productive
8 employees.

9 (4) Men's health is a concern to Federal and
10 State governments which absorb the enormous costs
11 of premature death and disability, including the
12 costs of caring for dependents left behind.

13 (5) The life expectancy gap between men and
14 women has increased from one year in 1920 to al-
15 most six years in 2002.

16 (6) Prostate cancer is the most frequently diag-
17 nosed cancer in the United States among men, ac-
18 counting for 33 percent of all cancer cases.

19 (7) An estimated 230,000 men will be newly di-
20 agnosed with prostate cancer this year alone, and
21 approximately 30,000 will die.

22 (8) Prostate cancer rates increase sharply with
23 age, and more than 75 percent of such cases are di-
24 agnosed in men age 65 and older.

1 (9) The incidence of prostate cancer and the re-
2 sulting mortality rate in African American men is
3 twice that in white men.

4 (10) Over 8,000 men, ages 15 to 40, will be di-
5 agnosed this year with testicular cancer, and 390 of
6 these men will die of this disease in 2005. A com-
7 mon reason for delay in treatment of this disease is
8 a delay in seeking medical attention after discov-
9 ering a testicular mass.

10 (11) Studies show that women are 100 percent
11 more likely than men to visit a doctor, have regular
12 physician check-ups, and obtain preventive screening
13 tests for serious diseases.

14 (12) Appropriate use of tests such as prostate
15 specific antigen (PSA) exams and blood pressure,
16 blood sugar, and cholesterol screens, in conjunction
17 with clinical exams and self-testing, can result in the
18 early detection of many problems and in increased
19 survival rates.

20 (13) Educating men, their families, and health
21 care providers about the importance of early detec-
22 tion of male health problems can result in reducing
23 rates of mortality for male-specific diseases, as well
24 as improve the health of America's men and its over-
25 all economic well-being.

1 (14) Recent scientific studies have shown that
2 regular medical exams, preventive screenings, reg-
3 ular exercise, and healthy eating habits can help
4 save lives.

5 (15) Establishing an Office of Men’s Health is
6 needed to investigate these findings and take such
7 further actions as may be needed to promote men’s
8 health.

9 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE OF MEN’S HEALTH.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title XVII of the Public Health
11 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300u et seq.) is amended by adding
12 at the end the following section:

13 “OFFICE OF MEN’S HEALTH

14 “SEC. 1711. The Secretary shall establish within the
15 Department of Health and Human Services an office to
16 be known as the Office of Men’s Health, which shall be
17 headed by a director appointed by the Secretary. The Sec-
18 retary, acting through the Director of the Office, shall co-
19 ordinate and promote the status of men’s health in the
20 United States.”.

21 (b) REPORT.—Not later than two years after the date
22 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and
23 Human Services, acting through the Director of the Office
24 of Men’s Health, shall submit to the Congress a report

- 1 describing the activities of such Office, including findings
- 2 that the Director has made regarding men's health.

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